GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:49
ANSWERED ON:15.11.2007
EDUCATIONAL AND LOAN FACILITIES TO MINORITY AND BACKWARD COMMUNITY
Bhakta Shri Manoranjan

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has evolved a strategy to ensure better educational facilities and loan facilities to minority and backward communities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the basis on which the Government has distinguished between minority and backward community status; and

(d) the achievements made so far by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (A.R. ANTULAY)

(a) & (b) Several schemes are in place for improving the educational facilities for the minorities and Other Backward Classes (OBCs). Some of them are as follows:-

(i) Merit-cum-means scholarship scheme for technical and professional courses, educational schemes of Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF), educational loan scheme of National Minority Development Finance Corporation (NMDFC) for students belonging to the minority communities.

(ii) For OBC students, pre-matric scholarship, post-matric scholarship, construction of hostels and education loan of the National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) are implemented.

(c) Five communities have been notified as minorities under Section 2(c) of the National Commission for Minorities Act 1992. Other Backward Classes, who are socially and educationally backward, are notified by the State and the Central Governments.

(d) MAEF has assisted 728 non-governmental organisations for the development of educational institutes and distributed scholarships to 1083 girl students. NMDFC has provided education loans to 4239 students belonging to the minorities. During the Xth Five Year Plan Period, 70.36 lakhs students belonging to OBCs have been given pre-matric and post-matric scholarships, and 28181 hostels have been constructed. NBCFDC has given educational loans to 8345 students belonging to OBCs.